(c) Efforts to attract cargo including container traffic to ports are made on a continuous basis. The steps being taken to encourage container traffic at other major ports include:—

(i) Modernisation and augmentation of the handling facilities.

(ii) Privatisation of container terminals wherever feasibility exists.

(iii) Marketing by respective ports to capture the traffic and also to encourage increasing containerization of containerisable cargo.

Proposal to bring all ports under one regulator

3047. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring all ports under one regulator;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) At present the tariff of Major Ports is regulated by Tariff Authority for Major Ports (TAMP) while tariff of other ports is not so regulated which is discriminatory and adversely affects the competitive environment. It may, therefore, be desirable that tariff of all ports is regulated under same regulations. Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport and Tourism has also recommended that there should be the same regulation for all ports, if not possible, the major ports should have liberty to fix port tariff at their own. However, ports other than major ports are under the control of respective State Governments whose agreement to such regulations may be desirable, which is not currently available.